

A NOTE FROM DEACON DEV

This Sunday we celebrate Palm Sunday, which marks the beginning of the holiest week in the Church's liturgical calendar. Holy Week was originally called the "Great Week" in Greek and Roman liturgical texts because of the great deeds of God commemorated during this time. The name "Holy Week" started being used in the 4th century. The word "holy" means to be set apart for God's purposes and so this week is "holy" because it is time set apart to call us back to what truly matters: sacrificial love, redemptive suffering, and divine hope.

In these final days of Lent, the Church invites us not to rush past the hard parts of the story, but to walk with Jesus step by step into Holy Week. We will soon stand with him in the garden, listen as the crowd turns, and remain near the cross as he pours out his life in love. Lent reminds us that authentic faith is not a shortcut around suffering; it is the grace to endure it with God, trusting that the Father is still at work even when the hour grows dark.

Holy Week then is more than just remembering events that are merely milestones in a historical timeline; they are sacred mysteries at the very heart of the Christian faith. By participating in its sacred observances, we are not only witnesses to the suffering of Christ, but we share in it. The apostle Paul wrote, "I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me" (Galatians 2:20). This radical identification with Jesus is what gives Holy Week its enduring significance. By entering into his journey, believers are themselves changed, made holy through union with the Holy One.

Let this Holy Week be more than just a tradition. Let it be a transformation. Let it call you to holiness, to love, and to the hope of resurrection.

Deacon Dev

[Giving Portal](#)

Please click on the video below to hear Fr. Mike and Fr. Francis discuss our upcoming Easter Holy Week schedule.



Easter Schedule

Holy Thursday 2 APRIL	7:00pm Holy Thursday Mass	
Good Friday 3 APRIL	12:00pm Stations of the Cross 3:00pm The Passion of the Lord	
Saturday 4 APRIL	10:00am Blessing of Easter Food 8:30pm Easter Vigil Mass	
St. Mary Magdalene CATHOLIC CHURCH	Easter Sunday 5 APRIL	7:00am Easter Mass (Incense Free) 9:00am Easter Mass 11:00am Easter Mass



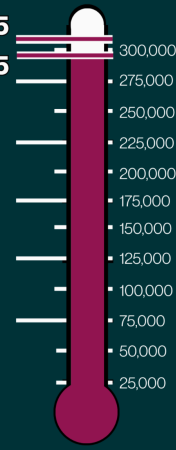
Bishop's Annual Appeal

As we enter the final stretch of the **2026 Bishop's Annual Appeal**, we are filled with gratitude for the generosity of our parish community. So far, 523 donors, representing 20% of our families, have pledged \$293,505, bringing us to 94% of our goal. **We are now less than \$20,000 away from reaching our parish goal.**

We are so close. It would be a wonderful **gift to our parish** to reach our goal by Easter. If you have not yet participated, **there is still time to be part of this important effort.** Your support makes a meaningful difference in the life of our diocese and helps sustain vital ministries that serve so many.

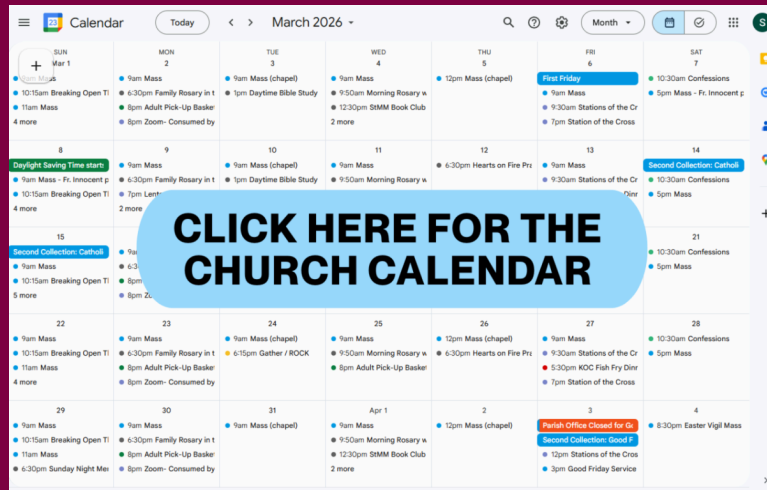
GOAL
\$312,667.05

\$293,505
Pledged



Thank you for your continued support.

Our calendar is now available online! Click here to view our new Google Calendar, where you can click on each event for more details.



FOR BEST VIEWING, OPEN THE CALENDAR ON YOUR LAPTOP OR PC

Mass This Weekend

Click [HERE](#) to Live Stream our **9am Sunday Mass** and our **Mon/Wed/Fri weekday Masses**.

Music for Weekend Masses

Gathering: Hosanna In The Highest (Adoramus Te Christe)

Responsorial Psalm: 22: God My God

Preparation: O Sacred Head Surrounded

Communion 1: Pange Lingua Gloriosi/Stabat Mater

Communion 2: You Alone

Communion 3: Holy Forever

Sending Forth: This is Amazing Grace

Service Music: Kyrie (Chant Mass)

Gospel Acclamation - Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ (Witchger)

Holy, Memorial Acclamation, Amen,

Lamb of God – Mass of St. Mary Magdalene (Sarah Hart)

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Would you like to donate flowers to beautify the altar and church this Easter or for weekend Masses, to honor our Lord? If so, please go [here](#) to sign up.

Flowers may be donated to mark a special occasion or made in honor or in memory of your loved ones. Questions? Please email floralministry@stmm.net

Tax Season

Directions for accessing your 2025 StMM tax statement can be found [HERE](#). We are grateful for your continued support of St. Mary Magdalene

Parish. Your generosity sustains our parish and is vital to keeping St. Mary Magdalene running and fulfilling its mission. Thank you!

Would you like to set up an automatic draft to support St. Mary Magdalene?

Directions can be found [HERE](#). Thank you for your generosity, which in turn helps St. Mary Magdalene continue serving and supporting you and our entire parish community.

Are you making a payment to the Parish Life Center?

Parish Life Center


Amount: \$ _____

Envelope No. _____

Name _____

Address _____

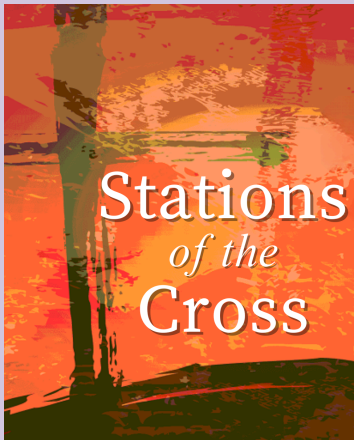
St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church • Apex, NC



To help keep everything organized and ensure your payments are properly credited, please use these designated envelopes when making your PLC contributions for the new building. Using these envelopes helps reduce confusion and allows us to process your gifts more efficiently. Envelopes are available in the narthex, at the parish office, or can be mailed to you upon request.

Thank you for your continued generosity and support!

StMM Lenten Activities



For Catholics worldwide, the **Stations of the Cross** is a popular Lenten devotion, also called the “Way of the Cross.” It is a prayerful meditation on the final hours of Jesus’ life.

Stations of the Cross will be held in the main Church on Friday, March 27, at 7pm, and on Good Friday at noon. The Stations of the Cross will also be livestreamed on Good Friday. Everyone is welcome!

Join Fr. Innocent **on Zoom** at 8pm as he leads us on a weekly Lenten prayer journey.

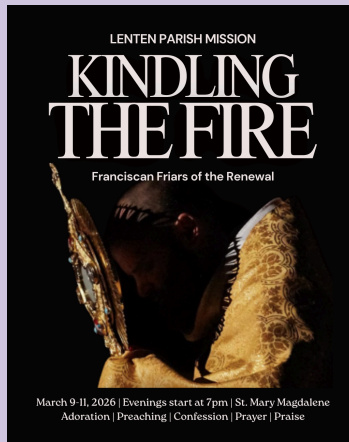
Feb 23- Made for Communion (**Recording here**)

Mar 2- The Fire of Contemplative Prayer (**Recording here**)

Mar 16- The Fire of Transfiguration (**Recording here**)

Mar 23- The Fire of Mission (**Recording here**)

Mar 30- The Body of Christ on Fire



Thank you to the **Franciscan Friars of the Renewal** for leading our Lenten Parish Mission, *Kindling the Fire*.

Did you miss any of the nights? A full recording of each night can be found below.

Monday, March 9

Tuesday, March 10

Wednesday, March 11

The Franciscan Friars rely on donations to continue their ministry and provide fantastic programs like *Kindling the Fire*.

Your generous donation shows appreciation and allows them to continue their work.



articles, practical guidelines, and opportunities for almsgiving to help you make the most of this sacred season.



New Dates! Father Innocent Montgomery, CFR, will lead a weekly Lenten online prayer journey for StMM called **Consumed by Fire**. This interactive series will include reflection, discussion, and Q&A.

All are welcome to join Fr. Innocent to grow in faith and pray together throughout the season of Lent. The link to join all sessions is **HERE**. Each week will also be recorded for those who cannot attend in person.

Be sure to visit the **Diocese of Raleigh's Lenten webpage**, where you'll find a variety of resources, insightful

StMM Ministry and Group Events

MARCH



The Knights of Columbus will once again host their popular Lenten Fish Fries! There is one date left: **Friday, March 27**. Mark your calendars now and plan to join us for a fun evening of fellowship and great food, **featuring new menu selections including fried shrimp and, for the kids, buttered noodles.**

The Knights would like to thank this year's Fish Fry sponsors: Gold Sponsor Kathy Lynch, Realtor at Keller Williams; and Silver Sponsors John Tudor from State Farm Insurance and Triangle Painting and Siding. Their generous support helps make these events possible.

Pre-orders are now being taken for Friday, Mar 27. Please go [HERE](#) to place your order.

THE EASTER EGG HUNT IS THIS SUNDAY- SIGN UP BELOW



The Columbiettes' Annual Easter Egg Hunt will take place on **Sunday, March 29, (Palm Sunday) following the 11:00 am Mass.** Please sign up for the Easter Egg Hunt [HERE](#).

The Easter Egg Hunt, for ages 1 to 9 years, will take place on StMM's soccer fields, and will include a "live" Easter bunny, a bunny board for family photos, and prizes!

Space is limited so sign up soon!

LAST DAY TO ORDER A COMMEMORATIVE BRICK IS MARCH 31



Commemorative Brick Order - Spring 2026

Our commemorative bricks line the walkway to our Activities Building and offer a meaningful way to celebrate a First Communion, Graduation or memory of a loved one. StMM will be placing our annual brick order soon. The **deadline to submit orders is March 31st.** Engraved bricks are \$100 each and order forms can be found [HERE](#)

Questions? Contact: hoffman@stmm.net

The deadline to order is March 31, 2026!

APRIL

Join us as Fr. Mike leads the beautiful tradition of the **Blessing of Easter Food on April 4 at 10:00 am** in the chapel.

This cherished Catholic custom, especially rooted in Eastern European traditions, invites families to bring baskets filled with foods that will be shared on Easter Sunday. These foods often include bread, eggs, meats, and sweets, each symbolizing the joy of the Resurrection and the end of the Lenten fast.

Through this special blessing, we ask God to sanctify the food that will nourish our bodies as we celebrate the new life of Easter. It is a meaningful way to prepare both our homes and our hearts for the joy of the Resurrection.



The Sunday after Easter is Divine Mercy Sunday!

Come celebrate the Feast of Mercy on **Sunday, April 12th at 3pm** in the church. All are welcome! Bring your family, friends, and children. There will be music, prayers, Adoration, Confession and Benediction. **Doors open at 2:40pm, we will begin promptly at 3pm.**

Questions: hoffman@stmm.net



Are you an adult interested in becoming fully initiated into the Catholic faith? Are you a baptized Christian looking to receive the Sacraments of Holy Eucharist and Confirmation? Then you owe it to yourself to get more information on the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA). While coming to know Jesus and His invitation to become a disciple, the OCIA process involves the journey of faith and conversion. A person is introduced to the beliefs, life, liturgy, and apostolic work of the Catholic Church. **The next OCIA journey begins on April 27, 2026 for those who wish to be initiated into the Catholic faith.** Please contact Deacon Rick at stevens@stmm.me or 908-910-0309 for more information or to register. **Advance registration is required.**

StMM Community Golf Outing
Hosted by **Parish ATHLETICS**

SPONSOR A HOLE

\$125 BUSINESS & FAMILY SPONSORS WELCOME

All proceeds will support the construction of a new restroom facility at the Apex Parish Athletics Field!
Contact parishathleticsinfo@gmail.com for more information!

SPONSOR A HOLE AT THE StMM COMMUNITY GOLF TOURNAMENT ON APRIL 20th

Families and local businesses are invited to **Sponsor a Hole** at the StMM Community Golf Tournament. All proceeds will help fund the Restroom Construction Project at the Apex Parish Athletics Fields. It's a simple way to show your support—even if you're not playing!

- 3 Ways to Get Involved:
- Looking to Sponsor a Hole? [Click HERE](#)
 - Want to Golf? Grab a foursome [HERE](#) before they're gone!
 - Interested in a Sponsorship Package? [Learn more HERE](#)
- Thank you for your support of this exciting community event hosted by Parish Athletics! Questions? Email parishathleticsinfo@gmail.com.

Meetings, Events, & Information
Please click on the link for more details.

We are making improvements to our website!



As we work behind the scenes, you may notice a few minor technical glitches or broken links. Thank you for your patience while we complete these updates.

CHURCH

- Deacon Rick offers an Adult Faith Refresher & Confirmation Prep series Please click here for more information.
- Please prayerfully consider making a pledge or donation to our Parish Life Center campaign, enabling us to build a lasting space for our parish family. Campaign and donation information can be found [HERE](#).
- Breaking Open The Word is a new weekly Gospel discussion group that is held after the 9am Sunday Mass.
- Are you gluten-free due to a medical condition and need a low-gluten Communion Host? Click here to learn how to receive low-gluten Communion at StMM.
- The 2025 StMM Annual Stewardship Report and the 2025-2026 Quarterly Report are available on our website.

SCHOOL

- Thinking about a Catholic education for your child? StMM school tours are now being scheduled.
- 2026-2027 School Year Applications are now being accepted for 1st and 6th grades.

GROUPS & MINISTRIES

- Hearts on Fire, a charismatic prayer group with Deacon Dev, meets in the Chapel at 6:30pm on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month.
- StMM Book Club meets the first Wednesday of the month to discuss a selected reading. The next meeting is on April 1. Everyone is welcome. Click here for more information.
- St. Mary Magdalene's marriage enrichment fellowship group, Chrysalis, provides space monthly for couples to grow in their love for God & their spouse. Childcare is provided.
- Would you like to be an Angel for expectant mothers? Gabriel Project needs Walking Angel volunteers to accompany women facing crisis pregnancies with prayer, practical assistance, and loving friendship.
- Forward in Hope is a grief support group at StMM. Please click here for more information.
- Prayers & Squares Prayer Quilt Ministry
- Traveling St. John Vianney Ministry-sign up to pray for our priests.
- Project Rachel Support Group - for hope and healing after abortion.
- Courage - A support group for those facing same-sex attraction, and EnCourage- A support group for relatives of people who experience same-sex attraction have local chapters which meet regularly.
- Catholic Senior Organization (CSO) meets the 3rd Monday of the month. The next meeting is on Monday, April 20, at 10:30am.
- Parish Athletics Spring Soccer and Baseball registration is now open.
- Let Your Faith Flow- Help Us Bring Clean Water to Uganda! St. Mary Magdalene is launching the Uganda Water Project to bring life-

- 2026 Appalachia Service Project (ASP) applications are now being accepted for high school students and adults. Please go [HERE](#) to apply and for more information.
- AAMEN Education Assistance Program is accepting applications for stipends to attend a trade school, junior college or four year college. More information can be found [HERE](#).
- A Call to Prayer rosary on Zoom is held every Tuesday at noon for human dignity and immigration.
- The Catholic Parish Outreach Food Pantry's Annual Pig Pickin is on Saturday, April 11.
- Adults with physical disabilities are invited to join a Handicapped Encounter Christ retreat on Sat., March 28.
- Changing clean water to the people of Kicheche, Uganda.
- Frassati is the Young Adult group at StMM offering faith, fellowship, and community. Email Nicole at frassati@stmm.net for more information.
- Birthchoice is recruiting volunteers for a new Pregnancy Resource Center which will support parents carrying to term a child with a prenatal diagnosis.
- Oak City Cares is hosting a fundraiser on April 16 to raise money for meeting the needs of the homeless in Raleigh. Please go [HERE](#) for more information.
- The 2026 Power and Purpose conference will be held in Steubenville, Ohio, on June 12-14. Click [here](#) for registration and more information.

PICTURES



The Mulholland Columbiettes warmly welcomed new members on March 25 (front row): Jaime Doran, Anne Marie Lamont, Vickie Walk, Natalia Villegas. Grand Knight Scott Nadeau and Deputy Grand Knight Joe Doran attended.



On Monday, March 23, the Catholic Senior Organization (CSO) had a great time bowling at Buffalo Lanes in Cary.

Sierra and Nathan Riegl celebrated their convalidation on Saturday, March 21.

**FOLLOW StMM
ON SOCIAL MEDIA**



Faith Formation

[Click HERE for the 2025-2026 Faith Formation Calendar](#)



Questions about Faith Formation:

GATHER (K-4th grade)- contact Suzanne Will at will@stmm.net or 919-657-4800 x7280

THE ROCK (5th & 6th grade)- contact Sarah St. Aubin at st.aubin@stmm.me or 919-657-4800 x7307

EDGE (7th & 8th grade)- contact Sarah St. Aubin at st.aubin@stmm.me or 919-657-4800 x7307

Apostello and the Way (9th-12th grade)- contact Niki Furnier at nfurnier@stmm.net or 919-657-4800 x7309

Confirmation- contact the coordinator at confirmation@stmm.net

St. Mary Magdalene | 919-657-4800 | 625 Magdala Place | Apex, NC 27502 US

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